

Technology Deployment Initiatives and Partnership Program

Request for Funding

FY 2001

FHWA Strategic Goal Area: Program Delivery

Project Title: Active Project Evaluation

Background: The amount of work contracted to A & E firms has grown significantly – from \$4.42 million in FY 1997 to an estimated \$33.75 million in FY 2002. To manage the increasing volume of outsourced A & E work, the Western Federal Lands Division created an A & E Team in 1999. Also in 1999, a web-publishing application called Active Project was purchased for evaluation by the A & E Team. Active Project was specifically designed to support collaboration on engineering projects via the Internet. Early revisions of the software suffered from problems that made a fair evaluation difficult - in fact, it has not been used on any A & E projects to date. However, the product has matured significantly and appears worthy of further evaluation.

Objectives: Obtain necessary upgrades and technical support for Active Project.

Status: While there are a number of general-purpose workgroup collaboration and file-management applications on the market, few are focused specifically on the engineering and construction disciplines. At present, the Western Federal Lands Division uses standard internetworking tools (FTP, Internet E-Mail) to exchange files and information. Revision control and auditing tools are not currently in use.

Expected Products and Milestones by Fiscal Year: A single A & E project will be completed by FY 2002. Cost and productivity data will be compared to A & E projects managed by “conventional” means.

Duration: One year – to be completed by FY 2002.

Estimated Cost by Fiscal Year: FY 2001: \$4,000.00

Suggested Organization Method:

Submitted:

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